

I voted Yes on H.R. 365, the National Blue Alert Act.

This legislation, of which I am a co-sponsor, would encourage the development of Blue Alert plans throughout the nation. Specifically, the U.S. Department of Justice would establish a national communications network to issue alerts, in coordination with states, local government, and law enforcement agencies. "Blue Alerts" are intended to help speed the apprehension of criminals who kill or seriously injure law enforcement officers, in a similar fashion to existing "Amber Alerts" for missing children. The National Blue Alert Act has been endorsed by groups including the National Sheriff's Association, Fraternal Order of Police and the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association.

This week is National Police Week, and thousands of law enforcement are in Washington for memorial services and events honoring officers who have given their lives in service - and many more who put themselves in the line of duty for us every day. It is a privilege to be in the presence of these officers, and the National Blue Alert Act is a fitting way to provide our law enforcement officers with the systems and tools they need to protect themselves just as they protect us on a daily basis.

The bill was approved by a vote of 394 – 1.